

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting

Time: August 25, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join ZOOM and Roll Call Approval of July notes Review of lingering action items from July notes	Set expectations and clear goals for teleconference meeting. Join a little early if possible, so we can troubleshoot any tech issues people may have
3:15pm	Subcommittee updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accomplishments• Next Steps• Needs• Logging hours and contributions	French Cabin Creek (Keven Clements, Karen Behm, Eva Tyler, Doug Kilgore) Swauk Creek Five Fingers (Ted Jackson, Deb Essman, Keven Clements, Bryan Peterson) Communication (Ellie Belew, Karen Behm, Nicky Pasi)
4:00	National Public Lands Day 'Love your Lands' campaign	Self-directed trash cleanup across Greenway Establishing trash collection sites Meaningful recognition?
4:10	Other volunteer updates	Teaway Workday WDFW kiosk
4:15	Updates from Land Managers	Fire ban information Site closures for construction and improvements
4:30	Adjourn	

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/842158553?pwd=a1VwS3dyaUesySkIpc3hhS2cyMDJ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 842 158 553

Password: 848859

One tap mobile

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+13462487799,,842158553#,,#848859# US (Houston)

Attendance: Susan Thomas, Gene Reed, Eva Tyler, Crystal Smith, Kristen Ashley, Ken Austin, Ellie Belew, Wayne Mohler, Doug Kilgore, Kevin Clements, Neil Stamp (Bryan Petersen alternate), Ted Jackson, Deb Essman, Bradley Gasawski,

Also in audience: Lisa Chissus (PNW 4WDA), Michelle Capp, Brian Speeg, Larry Leech

Edits and approval of last month's notes:

- Hearing none, move to approve and post

Review of July Action Items

- Website security – not an issue as we are not collecting donations or personal information
- Travel management plan for the OWNF – Michelle will provide update
- Great American Outdoors Act – how will LWCF authorization/funding for offshore drilling factor into ongoing payment?
 - Susan and Nicky suggest hosting a separate webinar/discussion about LWCF so group can do a deep dive, if there's interest
 - Kristen, Elly, Bradley, Wayne,
 - Somewhat limited so Nicky will share existing LWCF 101 materials, plus some updated information about what funding is coming down the pipeline for 2021

Subcommittee Updates:

- French Cabin Creek
 - Summary: area open to unlimited number of campers in dispersed area. No fee enforced, no services exchanged, leads to trash/waste/violence/citation issues.
 - Estimated as many as 2700 dispersed camping weekend of July 25, tents pitched in roads, no clear delineation between camp sites
 - First weekend of burn ban, 71 written warnings were issued. Based on citation documentation, we know all violators were from outside Kittitas County
 - Activities: Trash collection effort – 10 people (volunteer max) filled USFS dump trailer with 1000+ pounds of trash. Could have grabbed more, but ran out of space in truck and had to get to dump before closure.
 - Still many people camping during the pickup, which happened mid-week
 - Outreach to Waste Management for donation of dumpster! Doug secured donation of 8-yard dumpster, to be hosted at CE Ranger Station, through the end of September.
 - Activities: New signage. Eva and Brian Speeg discussing new signage and sign inventory:
 - By the entrance road (FS road 4308), one double sign board and one sani can on the south side.
 - By the entrance road, two double sign boards and two sani cans on the north side.
 - Past Thorp Creek bridge on FS road 4309, one double sign board and one sani can.
 - No signs have been removed from any of the reader boards.
 - Four double reader boards in total

- Suggests more placed in actual camping areas, away from parking.
 - However, aware that people do not read, so more images and graphics are needed. Brian has distributed some USFS signage from another district that threatens closure if people do not abide by sanitation rules
 - Still discussing what to do about signage
 - “Not dispersed camping, just dirt and mud packed together”
 - Are we past the point where dispersed land is a viable option?
 - Activities: using landscape rocks to exclude vehicles from riverside campsites
 - Kittitas Field and Stream and Ruffed Grouse Society working on machine time to place rocks. USFS will fund purchase of rocks.
 - Activities: communication with campers
 - Folks determined this was not very safe under COVID. If this goes ahead, will need guidance from USFS on how to approach.
 - USFS recent developments affecting French Cabin Creek:
 - Great American Outdoors Act proposal
 - Pursuing GAOA funding to bring on project planner and landscape architect to develop infrastructure and gap assessment for Cle Elum Valley
 - Working with Greenway Trust, using Middle Fork Snoqualmie project as a model, if funding comes through
 - Appeal to Rec Forum to potentially engage in this process in future
 - Needs:
 - Connecting with Brian Speeg about follow ups (rocks, sanicans, etc)
 - Brian will be scheduling follow up
 - With dumpster established, Doug looking to find solutions to abandoned vehicle issues – will be conferring with Kevin on machinery needs
 - Further discussion on signage limitations and guidelines
- Five Fingers trail redesign
 - Group met to see the trails, walk them (where possible) and determine what user experiences could be preserved while addressing sediment loading into the streams and seasonal drainages
 - Next steps
 - Mikki Douglas and Kim Larned were given some suggestions for how USFS could proceed
 - Next step is to involve a USFS trail designer
 - Group has made themselves available for conversations with this person when they are onboard
 - Michelle needs to provide the resource objectives for aquatics, soils, and hydrologies. Wants ‘management objectives’ from the groups so they can lay out goals for the trail designer. Suggests more data collection needed, outreach to additional 4x4 groups
 - Michelle to provide list of questions that need answered for trail designer
- Public Engagement

- Consensus that our Google Sheets signups are not effective
- How else can we communicate opportunities among our groups?
 - Looking at message board formats: <http://www.nwhikers.net/forums/>
 - Back end connection with Wordpress needs to be investigated
 - There may be a forum widget we can use, there

NPLD

- Sept 21-26
- Greenway encouraging folks to pick up trash independently
- Organizing drop-off locations so no need to haul trash to dump/pay fees
- Rec Forum members free to organize their own small groups on public lands
- Can register at mtsgreenway.org for the drop off site locations

Upcoming volunteer projects

- Teanaway Community Forest fence lay-down project
 - Date moved to October (will be in E-news distributed by Nicky next week)
 - Needed: 20 volunteers, groups of 5
- LT Murray Kiosks
 - Needed: 5-6 volunteers
 - Sept 19-20, Sat and Sun build
 - No construction experience needed, but helpful!
- Salmon La Sac Picnic Shelter repair and restoration
 - Sept 28-Oct 2
 - Week long workshop with Cascadian Log School
 - Learning historic construction techniques, notching, etc
 - Contractor restoring picnic shelter, volunteers learn skills and replicate style in kiosk
 - Needed: 5-6 volunteers
 - Camping on site at Salmon La Sac available

Updates from Partners/Land Managers

- WTA focusing on masks and trash pickup
 - Some staff are engaged in trail planning in the TCF!
- Travel planning on OWNF
 - Ongoing struggle to finish, difficult to reach agreement between all agencies, services, and users on impacts and allowable uses
 - “Effort to complete forest-wide travel management plan to eliminate cross-country travel and designate roads and trails throughout forest, including access to dispersed sites”
 - Current forest supervisor has decided to break this into two phases:
 - Phase 1: whole forest limiting cross-country travel to designated roads and trails
 - Cross country travel = “when you’re not on a road or trail”
 - Unlikely to include foot travel

- Likely to see a NEPA document and EA in 2021 that limits motorized travel to roads and trails
 - More analysis needed to determine where over-the-snow travel will be limited, which will happen later
 - Conduct travel management at local level instead of trying to apply to 4.5 million acres
 - Phase 2: Working with restoration partners to engage with aquatics partners to figure out how recreation can be managed sustainably while protecting sensitive resources
 - Ex: work being done on Swauk Five Fingers right now
- Will there be a motor vehicle use update map with this closure of cross-country travel?
 - One exists but has not yet been made public
- Wish Poosh Campground and associated day use area will close Sept 7
 - Mitigation for Cle Elum Pool Raise
 - Improving restroom, boat launch, and road
- Bearproof lids installed at all concessionaire campgrounds courtesy of Waste Management
- Some additional overtime funding received, saturating Speelyi Beach and dispersed areas with staff to discourage violations
- DNR:
 - Day after Labor Day, West Fork Teanaway campground will be temporarily closed to do more road work and grant-funded renovations
 - If people want to see more grant implementation in TCF, think about reaching out to the County Planning Department to hold hearing to approve conditional use permits at Indian Camp renovation/expansion
 - Many issues with campfires despite burn ban
 - Nicky to send burn ban info out with notes

Need to capture hours:

- Looking for ideas for how to record hours – both main meetings, subgroups, and volunteer activities

Reschedule?

- Propose to move Rec Forum to 3rd Tuesday, avoid current conflict with Roslyn City Council meetings. Nicky to send out Doodle Poll